AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, wherein determining that no routers are available ~~attempting to identify the router~~ comprises waiting for a router availability message.

Claim 3 (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein waiting for the router availability message comprises waiting for a message addressed to a multicast address.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, wherein determining that no routers are available ~~attempting to identify the router~~ comprises sending a message querying for available routers.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, further comprising sending a message to the second mobile host~~the at least one host~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, wherein determining that no routers are available ~~attempting to identify the router~~ comprises attempting to identify a router providing a first set of services.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein determining that no routers are available ~~attempting to identify a router~~ comprises attempting to identify a router providing a second set of services.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, wherein the router comprises a foreign agent.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1,~~claim 22, wherein the first mobile host comprises a wireless host.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~at least one~~ second host comprises ~~at least one~~ a wireless host.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, wherein the instructions for causing the first mobile host to ~~processor~~ to determine that no routers are available ~~attempt to identify the router~~ comprise instructions for causing the processor to wait for a router availability message.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 13, wherein the instructions for causing the ~~processor~~ first mobile host to wait for the router availability message comprise instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to wait for a message addressed to a multicast address.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, wherein the instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to determine that no routers are available~~attempt to identify the router~~ comprise instructions for causing a ~~processor~~first mobile host to send a message querying for available routers.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, further comprising instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to send a message to ~~the at least one host~~.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, wherein the instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to determine that no routers are

available~~attempt to identify the router~~ comprise instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to attempt to identify a router providing a first set of services.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 17, wherein the instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to determine that no routers are available~~attempt to identify a router~~ comprise instructions for causing the ~~processor~~first mobile host to attempt to identify a router providing a second set of services.

19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, wherein the router comprises a foreign agent.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) The computer program of ~~claim 12,~~claim 23, wherein the first mobile host comprises a wireless host.

Claim 22 (New) A method for use by a first mobile host, the first mobile host having a first network layer address prefix, for identifying a network node to communicate with, the method comprising:

sending by the first mobile host a first service solicitation to attempt to identify a router with which the first mobile host can communicate;

determining by the first mobile host that no routers are available with which to communicate;

sending by the first mobile host, in response to the determination, a second service solicitation requesting a network layer address of another mobile host with which the first mobile host can communicate; and

receiving, by the first mobile host, a response message to the second service solicitation, the response message including a network layer address of a previously unknown second mobile host with which the first mobile host can communicate, the second mobile host having a network layer address prefix different from the first network layer address prefix.

Claim 23 (New) A computer program product, disposed on a computer readable medium for use by a first mobile host, the first mobile host having a first network layer address prefix, for identifying a network node to communicate with, the computer program product including instructions for causing the first mobile host to:

send a first service solicitation to attempt to identify a router with which the first mobile host can communicate;

determine that no routers are available with which to communicate;

send, in response to the determination, a second service solicitation requesting a network layer address of another mobile host with which the first mobile host can communicate; and

receive, a response message to the second service solicitation including a network layer address of a previously unknown second mobile host with which the first mobile host can communicate, the second mobile host having a network layer address prefix different from the first network layer address prefix.